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PATENT

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: )  
)  
Metois, et al. ) Examiner: O. Akpati  
)  
Serial No.: 09/535,154 ) Art Unit: 2135  
)  
Filed: March 24, 2000 )  
)

**For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR DETECTING PROCESSING STAGES  
APPLIED TO A SIGNAL**

Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United State Postal Service as First Class Mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, March 31, 2005

By: Carol Prentice  
Carol Prentice

**RESPONSE AFTER FINAL**

Dear Sir:

This Response is responsive to the final Office Action mailed on January 13, 2005.

**REMARKS**

**Summary**

Claims 1-23 are pending.

Claims 1-8, 11-20, and 22-23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being anticipated by Efron (US 4,755,884).

Claims 9 and 21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Efron in view of Shimpuku (US 5,432,799).

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